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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/489,570	01/21/2000	William J. Baer	STL000021US1	5998

7590 10/02/2002

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EXAMINER

PHAM, HUNG Q

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2172

DATE MAILED: 10/02/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Offic Action Summary**

Applicati n No.	Applicant(s)	
09/489,570	BAER ET AL.	
Examiner	Art Unit	
HUNG Q PHAM	2172	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears in the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 July 2002.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

4) Claim(s) 1-87 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-87 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on 28 June 2002 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some \* c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.

3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

**Attachment(s)**

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**DETAILED ACTION**

1. Applicants amended claims 1-3, 5, 8, 10-13, 16, 19, 20, 22-53, 55, 58, 60-63, 69-70, 72-75 in the amendment received on 07/01/2002 and added claims 76-87. The pending claims are 1-87. Applicants' arguments have been fully considered by the examiner.

2. Applicant's arguments have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. **Claims 1-87 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DeRose et al. [USP 5,572,722].**

Regarding to claims 1, 26, and 51, DeRose teaches a method, a program of instruction and a system for indexing and rendering electronic documents, especially electronic books, having descriptive markup and hierarchical content (Col. 1, lines 10-20). Electronic documents include, but are not limited to, electronic books and operation manuals for large systems, such as for airplane maintenance, etc. The descriptive markup of an input document is interpretable as an ordered hierarchy of content objects. As shown in FIG. 3, a book as *a content object* has a plurality of elements, which may have a parent element, a first child element, a last child element, a left sibling element, and a right sibling element (Col. 7, line 59-Col. 8, line 25). As shown in FIG. 6, the data structure element directory 91 is an array of element descriptors 90 is used to improve navigation of a document. Each element descriptor 90 as *a content entity* represents an element of the document as *the content object*. The element descriptor 90 includes a field 92 for representing the parent of the element, a field 94 for representing the first child, a field 96 for representing the last child, a field 98 for representing a left sibling, a field 100 for representing a right sibling, a field 102 for representing the type of the element, and a field 104 for representing the location of text characters for a text chunk or the location of other data associated with the element such as attributes. Those fields that represent elements, such as parent, child and sibling elements, preferably contain the element identifiers assigned to those elements (Col. 9, line 18-Col. 10, line 6). DeRose further discloses that the element directory 91 is created as *a file object* by an indexing process in the mass storage device 34 (Col. 10, lines 39-56). The element directory 91 and the process of creating the data structure indicates the

step of *storing as a file object within the data repository a list of content entity identifiers indicating the content entities within the content object*. DeRose does not explicitly teach the step of *storing ones of the plurality of content entities within the data repository as a plurality of individually accessible file objects, wherein each file object contains one content entity*. However, as shown in FIG. 6, field 104 represents the location of text characters for a text chunk or the location of other data associated with the element such as attributes by using a pointer (Col. 9, lines 20-37). As shown in FIG. 8, the process of text chunk begins at step 141 to determine whether the next token is a text chunk. A new element descriptor 90 for the text chunk in the element directory 91 is created at step 142 and the type name for the text chunk is also stored, type name may be reserved name, such as "#TEXT". The text of the text chunk as *content entity* is then saved in the open text file in the mass storage device 34, and its location in the text file is recorded in location field 104 of the element descriptor 90 for this text chunk at step 146, the variable EID is incremented in step 148 (Col. 10, lines 39-56 and Col. 12, lines 10-46). Thus, with a unique type names of each text chunk in a document, each text chunk for a unique element descriptor 90 and each pointer for referencing a particular text chunk, a text chunk is written into the open text file in the storage device as a text file object, and the process of creating the text chunks with the texts of each text chunk as content entity indicates the step of *storing ones of the plurality of content entities within the data repository as a plurality of file objects, wherein each file object contains one content entity* and by using pointer for referencing a text chunk, a file object of text chunk is *individually accessible*. Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in

the art at the time the invention was made to modify the DeRose process to have the steps of storing content entities as a plurality of individually accessible file objects, and by having the content entities as a plurality of individually accessible file objects an electric document such as electric book could be navigated and indexed in accordance with its contents.

Regarding to claims 2, 27 and 52, DeRose teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claims 1, 26 and 51, DeRose further discloses the step of *creating an attribute table in the data repository for storing an attribute pertaining to at least one of content objects and content entities* (Fig. 6, Col. 9, lines 21-23 and Col. 10, lines 39-56).

Regarding to claims 3, 28 and 53, DeRose teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claims 2, 27 and 52, DeRose further discloses *the step of creating a row for each content object in the attribute table, the row containing at least one attribute pertaining to the content entity* (Fig. 6, Col. 9, line 21-Col. 10, line 6).

Regarding to claims 4, 29 and 54, DeRose teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claims 2, 27 and 52, DeRose further discloses the step of *creating a row for each content entity in the attribute table, the row containing at least one attribute pertaining to the content object* (Fig. 6, Col. 9, line 21-Col. 10, line 6).

Regarding to claims 5, 30 and 55, DeRose teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claims 2, 27 and 52, DeRose further discloses: *at least one attribute is extracted from the content object* (Col. 9, lines 21-37).

Regarding to claims 6, 31 and 56, DeRose teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claims 1, 26 and 51, but fails to disclose: *ones of the content entities further comprise components associated with the content object, and further comprising the step of storing each associated component as a file object*. However, as shown in Fig. 3, the body 50 of book 52 comprises an artwork 64 that associated with book 52 as the content object. DeRose further discloses: some of the tags in the descriptive markup of the document may also be empty tags such as tag 49 (FIG. 4). Such empty tags may be used for cross-referencing, referencing other documents, or for referencing graphic or other types of non-text information, etc. These tags often have attributes which are variables, such as "file", to which are assigned values, such as "myfig12" (Col. 8, lines 61-67). This indicates ones of the content entities further comprise components associated with the content object, and further comprising the step of storing each associated component as a file object. Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the DeRose method to include the step of storing each associated component as a file object in order to format an electric document such as electric book in accordance with its non-text information such as image file.

Regarding to claims 7, 32 and 57, DeRose teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claims 1, 26 and 51, DeRose further discloses: *the content object is one of a book, a collection of images, an album, and a video* (Col. 7, lines 59-64).

Regarding to claims 8, 33 and 58, DeRose teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claims 1, 26 and 51, DeRose further discloses: *the content object is a book and ones of the content entities are one of volumes, chapters and sections* (Col. 7, lines 59-64).

Regarding to claims 9, 34 and 59, DeRose teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claims 1, 26 and 51, but fails to disclose: *the content object is a compilation of content*. However, as shown in Fig. 3 and 5, the book is a content object comprises title, body, chapters and sections. This indicates the content object is a compilation of content. Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the DeRose method to include the step of compilation of content into the content object in order to format an electric document such as electric book in accordance with its contents.

Regarding to claims 10, 35 and 60, DeRose teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claims 6, 31 and 56, DeRose further discloses: *at least one of the associated components comprises an image* (Col. 8, lines 18-25).

Regarding to claims 11, 36 and 61, DeRose teaches a method, a program of instruction and a system for indexing and rendering electronic documents, especially electronic books, having descriptive markup and hierarchical content (Col. 1, lines 10-20). Electronic documents include, but are not limited to, electronic books and operation manuals for large systems, such as for airplane maintenance, etc. The descriptive markup of an input document is interpretable as an ordered hierarchy of content objects. As shown in FIG. 3, a book as *a content object* has a plurality of elements, which may have a parent element, a first child element, a last child element, a left sibling element, and a right sibling element (Col. 7, line 59-Col. 8, line 25). As shown in FIG. 6, the data structure element directory 91 is an array of element descriptors 90 is used to improve navigation of a document. Each element descriptor 90 as *a content entity* represents an element of the document as *the content object*. The element descriptor 90 includes a field 92 for representing the parent of the element, a field 94 for representing the first child, a field 96 for representing the last child, a field 98 for representing a left sibling, a field 100 for representing a right sibling, a field 102 for representing the type of the element, and a field 104 for representing the location of text characters for a text chunk or the location of other data associated with the element such as attributes. Those fields that represent elements, such as parent, child and sibling elements, preferably contain the element identifiers assigned to those elements (Col. 9, line 18-Col. 10, line 6). DeRose further discloses that the element directory 91 is created as *a file object* by an indexing process in the mass storage device 34 (Col. 10, lines 39-56). The element directory 91 and the process of creating the data structure indicates the

Regarding to claims 15, 40 and 65, DeRose teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claims 12, 37 and 62, DeRose further discloses the step of *creating a row for each content entity in the attribute table, the row containing at least one attribute pertaining to the content entity* (Fig. 6, Col. 9, line 21-Col. 10, line 6).

Regarding to claim 16, 41 and 66, DeRose teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claims 12, 37 and 62, DeRose further discloses: *at least one attribute is extracted from the content object* (Col. 9, lines 21-37).

Regarding to claims 17, 42 and 67, DeRose teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claims 11, 36 and 61, but fails to disclose: *ones of the content entities further comprise components associated with the content object, and further comprising the step of storing each associated component as a file object*. However, as shown in Fig. 3, the body 50 of book 52 comprises an artwork 64 that associated with book 52 as the content object. DeRose further discloses: some of the tags in the descriptive markup of the document may also be empty tags such as tag 49 (FIG. 4). Such empty tags may be used for cross-referencing, referencing other documents, or for referencing graphic or other types of non-text information, etc. These tags often have attributes which are variables, such as "file", to which are assigned values, such as "myfig12" (Col. 8, lines 61-67). This indicates ones of the content entities further comprise components associated with the content object, and further comprising the

step of storing each associated component as a file object. Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the DeRose method to include the step of storing each associated component as a file object in order to format an electric document such as electric book in accordance with its non-text information such as image file.

Regarding to claims 18, 43 and 68, DeRose teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claims 11, 36 and 61, DeRose further discloses: *the content object is one of a book, a collection of images, an album, and a video* (Col. 7, lines 59-64).

Regarding to claims 19, 44 and 69, DeRose teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claims 11, 36 and 61, DeRose further discloses: *the content object is a book and ones of the content entities are one of volumes, chapters and sections* (Col. 7, lines 59-64).

Regarding to claims 20, 45 and 70, DeRose teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claims 11, 36 and 61, DeRose further discloses: *the content object is a book and ones of the containers are one of books, volumes and chapters* (Col. 7, lines 59-64).

Regarding to claims 21, 46 and 71, DeRose teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claims 11, 36 and 61, but fails to disclose: *the content object is a*

*compilation of content.* However, as shown in Fig. 3 and 5, the book is a content object comprises title, body, chapters and sections. This indicates the content object is a compilation of content. Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the DeRose method to include the step of compilation of content into the content object in order to format an electric document such as electric book in accordance with its contents.

Regarding to claims 22, 47 and 72, DeRose teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claims 14, 42 and 64, DeRose further discloses: *at least one of the associated components comprises one of an image, a video segment and an audio segment* (Col. 8, lines 18-25).

Regarding to claims 23, 48 and 73, DeRose teaches a method, a program of instruction and a system for indexing and rendering electronic documents, especially electronic books, having descriptive markup and hierarchical content (Col. 1, lines 10-20). Electronic documents include, but are not limited to, electronic books and operation manuals for large systems, such as for airplane maintenance, etc. The descriptive markup of an input document is interpretable as an ordered hierarchy of content objects. As shown in FIG. 3, a book as *a content object* has a plurality of elements, which may have a parent element, a first child element, a last child element, a left sibling element, and a right sibling element (Col. 7, line 59-Col. 8, line 25). As shown in FIG. 6, the data structure element directory 91 is an array of element descriptors 90 is used to

improve navigation of a document. Each element descriptor 90 as *a content entity* represents an element of the document as *the content object*. The element descriptor 90 includes a field 92 for representing the parent of the element, a field 94 for representing the first child, a field 96 for representing the last child, a field 98 for representing a left sibling, a field 100 for representing a right sibling, a field 102 for representing the type of the element, and a field 104 for representing the location of text characters for a text chunk or the location of other data associated with the element such as attributes. Those fields that represent elements, such as parent, child and sibling elements, preferably contain the element identifiers assigned to those elements (Col. 9, line 18-Col. 10, line 6). DeRose further discloses that the element directory 91 and the text content as content entity is created as *a file object* by an indexing process in the mass storage device 34 (Col. 10, lines 39-56) in order to generate a table of contents, create annotation, bookmarks (Col. 12, lines 51-61). As shown in FIG. 12-14 is the process of retrieving an electronic book after the element directory 91 being generated as the step of *retrieving the file object containing the list of content entity identifiers within the data repository*. DeRose teaches that rendering includes processes for selecting a point in the document from which rendering may begin, displaying the document on an output device, and other operations to be performed by a reader of the electronic document. By using a table of contents from which a section of a document may be selected. A user may also have a directed path, bookmark, history log or other list of pre-selected starting points (Col. 15, lines 37-56). When the table of contents is displayed on the screen, as in FIGS. 12-14, the title for the first element in the table of contents file is

displayed. A section of the table of contents may then be expanded, for example, responsive to a mouse event or other indication by a user, by displaying the titles for any immediate sub-elements of a selected displayed element and for subsequent elements, which were in the original display (Col. 16, line 59-Col. 17, line 26). The rendering process as discussed above indicates the step of *for each content entity identifier, retrieving the file object corresponding to the identified content entity; and inserting the content entity into the ordered list at the location of its content entity identifier*. DeRose does not explicitly teach: *each content entity is stored as an individually accessible file object* and the file object is retrieved is *the individually accessible file object*. However, as shown in FIG. 6, field 104 represents the location of text characters for a text chunk or the location of other data associated with the element such as attributes by using a pointer (Col. 9, lines 20-37). As shown in FIG. 8, the process of text chunk begins at step 141 to determine whether the next token is a text chunk. A new element descriptor 90 for the text chunk in the element directory 91 is created at step 142 and the type name for the text chunk is also stored, type name may be reserved name, such as "#TEXT". The text of the text chunk as *content entity* is then saved in the open text file in the mass storage device 34, and its location in the text file is recorded in location field 104 of the element descriptor 90 for this text chunk at step 146, the variable EID is incremented in step 148 (Col. 10, lines 39-56 and Col. 12, lines 10-46). Thus, with a unique type names of each text chunk in a document, each text chunk for a unique element descriptor 90 and each pointer for referencing a particular text chunk, a text chunk is written into the open text file in the storage device as a text file object, and the process of creating the text chunks

with the texts of each text chunk as content entity, a file object of text chunk is stored and retrieved as an *individually accessible file object*. Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the DeRose process to have the steps of storing content entity as an individually accessible file objects, and by having the content entity as an individually accessible file objects an electric document such as electric book could be navigated and indexed in accordance with its contents.

Regarding to claims 24, 49 and 74, DeRose teaches a method, a program of instruction and a system for indexing and rendering electronic documents, especially electronic books, having descriptive markup and hierarchical content (Col. 1, lines 10-20). Electronic documents include, but are not limited to, electronic books and operation manuals for large systems, such as for airplane maintenance, etc. The descriptive markup of an input document is interpretable as an ordered hierarchy of content objects. As shown in FIG. 3, a book as *a content object* has a plurality of elements, which may have a parent element, a first child element, a last child element, a left sibling element, and a right sibling element (Col. 7, line 59-Col. 8, line 25). As shown in FIG. 6, the data structure element directory 91 is an array of element descriptors 90 is used to improve navigation of a document. Each element descriptor 90 as *a content entity* represents an element of the document as *the content object*. The element descriptor 90 includes a field 92 for representing the parent of the element, a field 94 for representing the first child, a field 96 for representing the last child, a field 98 for representing a left

sibling, a field 100 for representing a right sibling, a field 102 for representing the type of the element, and a field 104 for representing the location of text characters for a text chunk or the location of other data associated with the element such as attributes.

Those fields that represent elements, such as parent, child and sibling elements, preferably contain the element identifiers assigned to those elements (Col. 9, line 18-Col. 10, line 6). DeRose further discloses that the element directory 91 and the text content as content entity is created as *a file object* by an indexing process in the mass storage device 34 (Col. 10, lines 39-56) in order to generate a table of contents, create annotation, bookmarks (Col. 12, lines 51-61). As shown in FIG. 12-14 is the process of retrieving an electronic book after the element directory 91 being generated. DeRose teaches that rendering includes processes for selecting a point in the document from which rendering may begin, displaying the document on an output device, and other operations to be performed by a reader of the electronic document. By using a table of contents from which a section of a document may be selected. A user may also have a directed path, bookmark, history log or other list of pre-selected starting points (Col. 15, lines 37-56). When the table of contents is displayed on the screen as *the contents of the content object being defined by an ordered list of content entity identifier identifying one or more content entities*, as in FIGS. 12-14, the title for the first element in the table of contents file is displayed. A section of the table of contents may then be expanded, for example, responsive to a mouse event or other indication by a user, by displaying the titles for any immediate sub-elements of a selected displayed element and for subsequent elements, which were in the original display (Col. 16, line 59-Col. 17, line

26). The rendering process as discussed above indicates the step of *for each content entity identifier, retrieving the file object corresponding to the identified content entity; and inserting the content entity into the ordered list at the location of its content entity identifier.*

DeRose does not explicitly teach: each content entity is *an individually accessible file object*. However, as shown in FIG. 6, field 104 represents the location of text characters for a text chunk or the location of other data associated with the element such as attributes by using a pointer (Col. 9, lines 20-37). As shown in FIG. 8, the process of text chunk begins at step 141 to determine whether the next token is a text chunk. A new element descriptor 90 for the text chunk in the element directory 91 is created at step 142 and the type name for the text chunk is also stored, type name may be reserved name, such as "#TEXT". The text of the text chunk as *content entity* is then saved in the open text file in the mass storage device 34, and its location in the text file is recorded in location field 104 of the element descriptor 90 for this text chunk at step 146, the variable EID is incremented in step 148 (Col. 10, lines 39-56 and Col. 12, lines 10-46). Thus, with a unique type names of each text chunk in a document, each text chunk for a unique element descriptor 90 and each pointer for referencing a particular text chunk, a text chunk is written into the open text file in the storage device as a text file object, and the process of creating the text chunks with the texts of each text chunk as content entity, a file object of text chunk is stored as an *individually accessible file object*. Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the DeRose process to have the steps of storing content entity as an individually accessible file objects, and by having the content entity

as an individually accessible file objects an electric document such as electric book could be navigated and indexed in accordance with its contents.

Regarding to claims 25, 50 and 75, DeRose teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claims 24, 49 and 74, DeRose further discloses the step of *assigning an identifier to the content object; and assigning new content entity identifiers to the content entities, the new identifiers including the identifier assigned to the content object* (Fig. 6, Col. 9).

Regarding to claim 76, 80 and 84, DeRose teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claim 1, 26 and 51, DeRose further discloses: *the list is manipulable by a user to select the content entities within the content object* (Col. 15, line 37-Col. 16, line 14).

Regarding to claim 77, 81, and 85, DeRose teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claim 11, 36 and 61, DeRose further discloses: *the outline is manipulable by a user to select the content entities within the content object* (Col. 15, line 37-Col. 16, line 14).

Regarding to claim 78, 82 and 86, DeRose teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claim 23, 48 and 73, DeRose further discloses: *the list is*

*manipulable by a user to select the content entities within the content object* (Col. 15, line 37-Col. 16, line 14).

Regarding to claim 79, 83 and 87, DeRose teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claim 24, 49 and 74, DeRose further discloses: *the ordered list is manipulable by a user to select the content entities within the content object* (Col. 15, line 37-Col. 16, line 14).

### ***Conclusion***

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hung Pham whose telephone number is 703-605 4242. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 7:00 Am - 3:30 Pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, VU, KIM YEN can be reached on 703-305 4393. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-746 7239 for regular communications and 703-746 7238 for After Final communications. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305 3900.

Examiner: Hung Pham  
September 25, 2002



KIM VU  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100